



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE † ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON † DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

March 13, 2020

House Bill 1179

**Public Health – Unborn Human Beings and Infants
(Humane Disposition of Human Remains Act)**

House Health and Government Operations Committee

Position: SUPPORT

The Maryland Catholic Conference represents the mutual public-policy interests of the three (arch)dioceses serving Maryland, including the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Archdiocese of Washington, and the Diocese of Wilmington. We offer this testimony in support of House Bill 1179.

HB 1179 would require certain healthcare facilities or abortion clinics to disclose, provide, and inform a parent of certain information requiring a parent to authorize the final disposition of bodily remains of an unborn human being.

The Church believes that in keeping with respecting the dignity of the body, particularly the most vulnerable in the form of these unborn human beings, that laws that would ensure and promote that a proper burial or cremation take place and unborn human being are not being disposed of as, or in combination with, infectious or medical waste should be supported.

It is vital to have strong laws on the books dealing with the disposition of unborn human beings, and to document that it has been done so appropriately and that the unborn human being is treated with proper dignity and respect.

For these reasons we respectfully ask for a favorable report on House Bill 1179.

